

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: Ek, Steven W.

Examiner: David C. Comstock

Serial No.: 10/789,545

Group Art Unit: 3733 Conf. No.: 9474

Filed: February 27, 2004

Docket: ART03.03

Title: ARTICULAR SURFACE IMPLANT

AMENDMENT & REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action mailed October 5, 2009.

Applicant herein has filed a request for continued examination (RCE) along with the present amendment. Authorization to charge a credit card has been provided upon electronic filing of this amendment to provide for a three month extension of times as well as the RCE fee. Applicant believes that no further extension of times are necessary; however, Applicant conditionally petitions for an extension of time to provide for the possibility that the need for an extension has inadvertently been overlooked. Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-4238 for any necessary extension fees or any other fees associated with the present application not otherwise provided for herein.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's thorough examination of the subject application and request reexamination and reconsideration of the subject application in view of the following:

- **Amendments to the Claims**, beginning on Page 2 of this paper; and
- **Remarks**, beginning on Page 6 of this paper.